Clay Muller ATLANTA, GEORGIA

A RESOLUTION BY COUNCILMEMBERS

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2004 CITY OF ATLANTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY PACKAGE SO AS TO EXPRESS THE CITY OF ATLANTA'S SUPPORT FOR A MUNICIPAL OPTION SALES TAX; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

04-R -0040

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta is currently under two federal consent decrees which require the City to upgrade, maintain and construct improvements to its sanitary sewer collection and treatment system, in order to comply with the Federal Clean Water Act and the Georgia Water Quality Control Act.; and

WHEREAS, the City is also subject to two administrative Consent Orders issued by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, which require capital improvements at the Chattahoochee and Hemphill Treatment Plants, as well as operational improvements to ensure compliance with the Georgia Rules for Safe Drinking Water; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of complying with these federal and state mandates is approximately \$3.174 Billion between 2004 and 2014; and

WHEREAS, the current plan for completing this work derives its funding through the issuance of revenue bonds which must ultimately be repaid by the City's water-sewer ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, the amount of debt service required for a \$3 Billion capital program will result in substantial water and sewer rates increases over the next five years; and

WHEREAS, there is a proposal to be considered in the Georgia General Assembly during 2004 that provides authorization to impose a 1% Municipal Option Sales Tax ("MOST"); and

WHEREAS, a MOST is estimated to generate between \$70 and \$100 million per year in sales tax revenue for the City of Atlanta; and



WHEREAS, such revenue projection would mitigate the need for extensive water and sewer rates increases; and

WHEREAS, by enacting a MOST a greater segment of visitors to Atlanta will make a financial contribution to the cost of the City's water sewer system; and

WHEREAS, enactment and imposition of a MOST would capture revenue from non-residents who use City water and sewer services but are not ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, enactment of a MOST would allow the City of Atlanta voters to choose the method by which they want to pay for the \$3.2 Billion in required water sewer improvements.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA hereby resolves to amend the 2004 General Assembly Package by indicating its support for the enactment of a Municipal Option Sales Tax for the purpose of funding water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure improvements and repair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, if so authorized, the City of Atlanta expresses its intent to offer the MOST to the voters during 2004, where, if successful, the water and sewer rates shall be reviewed annually and revised and recalculated accordingly so as to reduce the rates for all metered customers in appropriate proportion and to improve the City's debt ratio and cost of borrowing to the City.

A true copy,

Municipal Clerk, CMC

ADOPTED by the Council APPROVED by the Mayor

JAN 05, 2004 JAN 09, 2004

Atlanta City Council

Regular Session

03-R-P8NL 04-R-0040

2004 GEN. ASSEMBLY PKG SUPPORT MUNICIPAL OPTION SALES TAX ADOPT/WILLIS

YEAS: 13
NAYS: 0
ABSTENTIONS: 0
NOT VOTING: 3
EXCUSED: 0
ABSENT 0

Y Smith NV Archibong Y Moore Y Mitchell Y Starnes Y Fauver NV Martin Y Norwood Y Young Y Shook Y Maddox Y Willis Y Winslow Y Muller Y Boazman NV Woolard

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	Chair	Chair	CONSENT REFER
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